PUBLIC NOTICE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (LDEQ) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WATER PERMITS DIVISION

2012 INTEGRATED REPORT ON WATER QUALITY IN LOUISIANA

In accordance with the Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), 30-day notice is hereby given for solicitation of comments for the update of Volume 5: Water Quality Inventory. Updates to Volume 5 of the WQMP have been made through development of the 2012 Water Quality Integrated Report (Excel/PDF table of assessment results for Louisiana) and the associated Integrated Report Rationale. The Integrated Report Rationale provides a description of the processes used in making water quality assessment and Integrated Report category determinations.

The 2012 Integrated Report is a two-part report. The first, "§305(b) Report," is an assessment of all waters in the State and is conducted every even-numbered year to meet requirements of the Clean Water Act, §305(b). The second part, "§303(d) List," also conducted every even-numbered year, identifies, lists, and ranks impaired water bodies that require a more in-depth technical analysis to determine the maximum loading of a pollutant a water body can receive and how much reduction in loading is needed to maintain water quality standards. This technical analysis is known as a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Requirements of this portion of the Integrated Report are found in the Clean Water Act §303(d). These two reports are combined, "integrated," as one document in the Excel/PDF table of assessment results, along with the Integrated Report Rationale.

The 2012 Integrated Report has been prepared using existing and readily available water quality data and information in order to comply with rules and regulations under Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Clean Water Act.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments for the record on the 2012 Integrated Report and Rationale. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m, Wednesday, February 29, 2012. All comments should be addressed to Ms. Lixin Tang, Office of Environmental Services, Water Permits Division, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821-4313, or by e-mail at lixin.tang@LA.GOV.

The report and associated documents may be viewed on the LDEQ Website at: http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits/WaterQualityStandardsAssessm ent.aspx under Current Events and on the Electronic Document Management (EDMS) on the DEQ public website at www.deq.louisiana.gov. All correspondence should specifiy AI number 169294. For additional information please contact Mr. Al Hindrichs at (225) 219-3212.

Mr. Sam L. Phillips Assistant Secretary Office of Environmental Services

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